

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A shingle removal tool comprising, in combination:
a base;
a blade forwardly extending from the base;
wherein the blade has a planar portion forming a leading edge;
wherein the blade is secured to the base to substantially prevent movement of the blade relative to the base;
an elongate shaft rearwardly extending from the base;
a pair of wheels rotatably attached to the base rearward of the blade; and
wherein the wheels are laterally spaced apart and have a common rotational axis;
wherein the wheels are secured to the base to substantially prevent movement of the wheels relative to the base in directions perpendicular to the rotational axis; and
wherein the blade and the wheels are positioned such that a plane formed by the planar portion of the blade is substantially tangent to a radial periphery of at least one of the wheels.
2. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, wherein the blade is removably mounted to the base.
3. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, ~~wherein the blade and the wheels are positioned such that a plane formed by the planar portion of the blade is substantially tangent to a radial periphery of at least one of the wheels~~ wherein the wheels are spaced a part a width substantially less than a width of the leading edge of the blade.
4. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, wherein the shaft extends from the base at a location entirely forward of the wheels.
5. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, wherein the shaft has an obtuse angle therein forming a forward portion having a central axis which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade between the planar portion of the blade and the wheels and a rearward portion which intersects the plane formed by the planar

portion of the blade forward of the planar portion of the blade, wherein a rear grip is located at a rear end of the shaft; and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft.

6. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 5, further comprising a rear grip having a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the rearward portion of shaft therein such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft and a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material located within the rear grip and between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

7. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 5, further comprising a rear grip rigidly secured to the rearward portion of the shaft and forming an acute angle with a central axis of the rearward portion of the shaft and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to the central axis of the shaft.

8. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, wherein the wheels are rotatable about a laterally extending axle rigidly secured to the base.

9. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, further comprising a rear grip located at a rearward end of the shaft and a fore grip located along the shaft, wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft; and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft.

10. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, further comprising a rear grip having a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the shaft therein such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft and a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material located between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

11. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 1, further

comprising a fore grip located along the shaft and axially adjustable along the length of the shaft, and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft.

12. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 11, wherein the position of the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft to a plurality of predetermined positions.

13. **(currently amended)** A shingle removal tool comprising, in combination:
a base;
a blade forwardly extending from the base;
an elongate shaft rearwardly extending from the base;
~~at least one wheel~~ a pair of wheels rotatably attached to the base rearward of the blade;
wherein the blade has a planar portion forming a leading edge; ~~and~~
wherein the shaft has an obtuse angle therein forming a forward portion having a central axis which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade between the planar portion of the blade and the at least one wheel and a rearward portion which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade forward of the planar portion of the blade
a rear grip located at a rear end of the shaft; and
wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft.

14. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 13, further comprising a rear grip having a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the rearward portion of shaft therein such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft and a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material located within the rear grip and between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

15. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 13, further comprising a rear grip rigidly secured to the rearward portion of the shaft and forming an acute angle with a central axis of the rearward portion of the shaft, and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to the central axis of

the shaft.

16. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 13, wherein the shaft is a tube.

17. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 13, further comprising a fore grip located along the rearward portion of the shaft and a rear grip located at a rear end of the rearward portion of the shaft, and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft; and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft.

18. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 13, further comprising a fore grip located along rearward portion of the shaft and axially adjustable along the length of the rearward portion of the shaft, and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft.

19. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 18, wherein the position of the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft to a plurality of predetermined positions.

20. **(currently amended)** A shingle removal tool comprising, in combination:
a base;
a blade forwardly extending from the base;
an elongate shaft rearwardly extending from the base;
wherein the blade forms a leading edge;
a rear grip having a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the shaft therein such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft; and
a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material located within the rear grip and between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

21. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 20, wherein the body comprises plastic.

22. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 21, wherein the body comprises polyurethane foam.

23. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 20, further comprising ~~at least one wheel~~ a pair of wheels rotatably attached to the base rearward of the blade and wherein the wheels are laterally spaced apart and have a common rotational axis

24. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 20, wherein the blade has a planar portion forming the leading edge and the shaft has an obtuse angle therein forming a forward portion having a central axis which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade between the planar portion of the blade and ~~the at least one wheel~~ a rear end of the base and a rearward portion which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade forward of the planar portion of the blade, and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft.

25. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 20, further comprising a fore grip located along the shaft wherein the rear grip is a D-shaped grip and is a unitary molded plastic component.

26. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 20, further comprising a fore grip located along the shaft and axially adjustable along the length of the shaft and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with a central axis of the shaft.

27. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 26, wherein the position of the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft to a plurality of predetermined positions.

28. **(currently amended)** A shingle removal tool comprising, in combination:
a base;
a blade forwardly extending from the base;
an elongate shaft rearwardly extending from the base;
wherein the blade forms a leading edge;
a rear grip located at a rear end of the shaft; ~~and~~
wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft;
a fore grip located along the shaft;
wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft; and
wherein the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft.

29. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 28, wherein ~~the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft~~ the rear grip is D-shaped.

30. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 29 28, wherein the position of the fore grip is axially adjustable along the length of the shaft to a plurality of predetermined positions.

31. **(original)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 28, wherein the shaft is provided with a plurality of axially spaced apart openings for receiving a fastener to secure the fore grip at a plurality of alternative positions.

32. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 28, further comprising ~~at least one wheel~~ a pair of wheels rotatably attached to the base rearward of the blade and wherein the wheels are laterally spaced apart and have a common rotational axis.

33. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim ~~32~~ 28, wherein the blade has a planar portion which forms the leading edge and the shaft has an obtuse angle therein forming a forward portion having a central axis which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade between the planar portion of the blade and ~~the at least one wheel~~ a

rear end of the base and a rearward portion which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade forward of the planar portion of the blade.

34. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 28, wherein the rear grip has a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the shaft therein such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft and a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material is located within the rear grip and between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

35. **(currently amended)** A shingle removal tool comprising, in combination:
a base;
a blade forwardly extending from the base;
wherein the blade is secured to the base to substantially prevent movement of the blade relative to the base;
an elongate shaft rearwardly extending from the base;
a pair of laterally spaced apart wheels rotatably about a laterally extending axis of rotation located rearward of the blade;
wherein the wheels are secured to the base to substantially prevent movement of the wheels relative to the base in directions perpendicular to the axis of rotation;
wherein the blade and the wheels are positioned such that a plane formed by the planar portion of the blade is substantially tangent to a radial periphery of at least one of the wheels;
wherein the blade has a planar portion forming a leading edge;
wherein the shaft has an obtuse angle therein forming a forward portion having a central axis which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade between the planar portion of the blade and the wheels and a rearward portion which intersects the plane formed by the planar portion of the blade forward of the planar portion of the blade; ~~and~~
a rear grip located at a rear end of the shaft; and
wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to a central axis of the shaft.

36. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 35, wherein the rear grip has a passage slidably receiving a rear end of the rearward portion of shaft therein

such that the rear grip is axially moveable relative to the shaft and a cylindrically-shaped solid body of resilient material is located within the rear grip and between the rear grip and the shaft to absorb impacts as the rear grip axially moves forward relative to the shaft.

37. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 35, wherein the rear grip is rigidly secured to the rearward portion of the shaft and forms an acute angle with a central axis of the rearward portion of the shaft and wherein the rear grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that laterally extends perpendicular to the central axis of the shaft.

38. **(currently amended)** The shingle removal tool according to claim 35, further comprising a fore grip located along the shaft and axially adjustable along the length of the shaft and wherein the fore grip includes a cylindrically-shaped grasping portion that is coaxial with the central axis of the shaft.